

Wildfire Mitigation Activities

We are committed to taking actions that reduce the chances that EWEB's equipment is involved in an ignition event and a subsequent wildfire. Our approach focuses first on operating our system in a safe and reliable manner through year-round proactive maintenance. Situational awareness during wildfire season includes adjusting operational practices while we target investments to make the grid more resilient to fire and other weather events.

The following actions were taken within the High Risk Fire Zones (HRFZ) identified in our Wildfire Mitigation Plan.



Ignition Risk Safety Patrols and Accelerated Maintenance

2021

- Inspected 48 feeder line miles in HRFZ
- Replaced 91 pole crossarms (\$150,000)

2022

- · Inspected over 150 line miles in HRFZ
- Replaced 94 pole cross-arms (\$176,000)
- Upgraded 5 poles and 1 transformer (\$36,000)

Enhanced Vegetation Management

2021

• Fuels reduction on private properties totaling 75 projects (\$600,000) funded in part by state grants

2022

• Fuels reduction on private properties totaling 53 projects (\$1.2M) funded in part by state grants

Targeted Grid Hardening

2021

- Replaced 11 ductile iron poles (\$55,000)
- Upgraded 24 transformers (\$101,000)

2022

- Removed 31 miles of de-energized 69kv lines and 143 poles (\$411,000)
- Reconfigured 80 cross-arm poles for 'slim line' format (\$58,000)

Wildfire Season Operations and Situational Awareness Tools

2021

- New fire suppression equipment for field crews
- We changed the system sensitivity to Protective Settings during 3 Red Flag Warning weather events

2022

- We installed an ALERTWildfire camera on a communications tower at the Carmen-Smith project
- We changed system sensitivity to Protective Settings from early August to mid-October

Extreme Weather Events

2021

 Turned off power to Carmen-Smith transmission lines at request of USFS during the Knoll Fire (no customer outages)

2022

 Sept. 9-11 - Public Safety Power Shutoff planned power outage impacted approx. 3,000 customers and power was restored within 36 hours

Learn more at eweb.org/wildfire



Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS)

WHAT IS A PSPS?

A Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) is an operational practice an electric utility may use to preemptively shut off power in high-risk areas to help prevent wildfires during extreme and potentially dangerous weather conditions. A PSPS means EWEB will proactively shut off power and it is considered an action of last resort to help protect public safety. The risk of wildfires has changed in the Pacific Northwest and a PSPS is one way we can mitigate those risks. We recognize that it is a very serious decision to turn off the power and there are many factors we consider when determining if a PSPS is a necessary action to mitigate the risk of wildfires. A PSPS is just one tool in our wildfire mitigation toolbox.

HOW WILL YOU BE NOTIFIED OF A PSPS EVENT?

We know advance notification is critical to help you prepare for an outage. Whenever possible, EWEB will announce a PSPS 48 hours in advance and again approximately 24 hours before the power is scheduled to be turned off. We will use multiple communication channels including email, autodial, social media, our website, and local news media. Color coded graphics will be used to signify the status of a PSPS. Weather events and wildfire situations can be dynamic, so while we will strive for at least a 24-48 hours advance warning, this may not always be possible.

For email alerts about a PSPS, sign up at eweb.org/emergencyprep.

HOW DOES EWEB DECIDE TO TURN OFF THE POWER?

EWEB considers several variables when deciding to proactively turn off the power in response to imminent fire danger and risk to public safety. While each situation is unique, some variables include:

- Impending dangerous fire weather conditions
- Active wildfire in service area
- Mandatory evacuation in effect
- Coordinated response with other area utilities

HOW LONG BEFORE POWER IS RESTORED?

Once the immediate threat of wildfire has passed, our crews will visually inspect the power lines to check for any damage or safety concerns before restoring power. As these inspections can only occur during daylight hours, customers should be prepared to be without power for an extended time during a PSPS.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

For EWEB's Wildfire Mitigation Plan: eweb.org/wildfire
For emergency preparedness: eweb.org/emergencyprep
For Outage updates: eweb.org/outagemap
To update your contact information and receive PSPS alerts call
541-685-7000 or email eweb.answers@eweb.org
If you have, or care for someone with, significant health needs that require electricity, please let us know by calling 541-685-7000.

